

Amendments to the Abstract

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract

The present invention relates to railway rail handling apparatus and a method of handling railway rails using such apparatus. The railway rail handling apparatus is configured for track side operation and comprises ground engaging wheel apparatus means and rail moving apparatus means. The rail moving apparatus means is configured to engage a railway rail along part of its length and for its progressive movement longitudinally along the rail as the railway rail handling apparatus moves on the ground engaging wheel apparatus means. As the rail moving apparatus means moves in this fashion the rail moving apparatus means is configured to progressively bend the rail laterally of an unbent part of the rail, thereby moving the rail from a first position to a second position. The railway rail handling apparatus defines a footprint over the ground and the rail moving apparatus means is, in use, operative within the footprint.